Please amend Claim 7 to recite as follows:

7.   (Amended)   A method according to Claim 3 wherein the detecting a carrier drop step further comprises the step of detecting a carrier drop corresponding to a silence transmission terminating a V.8 standard phase 1 and wherein the detecting a carrier drop step is followed by the step of conditioning the modem to receive a phase 2 information (INFO0) signal.

Please amend Claim 16 to recite as follows:

16.   (Amended)   A carrier detection system according to Claim 14 wherein the selected data pattern in the data signal is at least one of a call menu (CM) signal and a joint menu (JM) signal.

Please amend Claim 17 to recite as follows:

17.   (Amended)   A carrier drop detection system for a V.8 standard modem startup sequence, the system comprising:

a receiver circuit that receives a signal;

a detector circuit coupled to the receiver circuit that detects at least one of a call menu (CM) signal and a joint menu (JM) signal from the received signal;

a signal strength detection circuit coupled to the receiver that outputs a received signal strength for the received signal;

a threshold circuit coupled to the receiver circuit that latches a carrier drop detection threshold based on a current value of the received signal strength responsive to detection of at least one of the CM and the JM signal by the receiver circuit; and

a comparator circuit coupled to the threshold circuit and the signal strength detection circuit that compares the received signal strength to the carrier drop detection threshold to detect a carrier drop corresponding to an end of the startup sequence.

Please amend Claim 19 to recite as follows:

19.   (Amended)   A system according to Claim 18 wherein the modem uses a V.8 standard during startup and the means for updating comprises means for updating the carrier

drop detection threshold responsive to a selected data pattern in the signal data corresponding to at least one of a call menu (CM) signal and a joint menu (JM) signal.

Please amend Claim 20 to recite as follows:

20.   (Amended)   A system according to Claim 18 wherein the means for updating further comprises:

means for setting a flag to indicate receipt of at least one of a valid call menu (CM) signal and a valid joint menu (JM) signal;

a signal strength detector coupled to the received signal and having an output corresponding to a signal strength level of the received signal;

means for latching an output of the signal strength detector responsive to setting of the flag; and

means for setting the carrier drop detection threshold to a value a predetermined amount below the latched output of the signal strength detector responsive to setting of the flag.

Please amend Claim 24 to recite as follows:

24.   (Amended)   A system according to Claim 20 wherein the means for detecting a carrier drop further comprises means for detecting a carrier drop corresponding to a silence transmission terminating a V.8 standard phase 1 and further comprising means for conditioning the modem to receive a phase 2 information (INFO0) signal.

Please amend Claim 29 to recite as follows:

29.   (Amended)   A computer program product according to Claim 28 wherein the modem uses a V.8 standard during startup and the computer readable code which updates comprises computer readable code which updates the carrier drop detection threshold responsive to a selected data pattern in the signal data corresponding to at least one of a call menu (CM) signal and a joint menu (JM) signal.

Please amend Claim 30 to recite as follows:

30.   (Amended)   A computer program product according to Claim 28 wherein the computer readable code which updates further comprises:

computer readable code which sets a flag to indicate receipt of at least one of a valid CM signal and a valid JM signal;

computer readable code which outputs a signal strength level of the received signal;

computer readable code which latches the output of the computer readable code which outputs a signal strength level responsive to setting of the flag; and

computer readable code which sets the carrier drop detection threshold to a value a predetermined amount below the latched output responsive to setting of the flag.

Please amend Claim 34 to recite as follows:

34.   (Amended)   A computer program product according to Claim 30 wherein the computer readable code which detects a carrier drop further comprises computer readable code which detects a carrier drop corresponding to a silence transmission terminating a V.8 standard phase 1 and further comprising computer readable code which conditions the modem to receive a phase 2 information (INFO0) signal.